

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for March 21, 2014

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's older citizens and advocates of aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The **Legislative Update** is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

### The 51<sup>st</sup> Legislature, 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session

This week, budget bills were introduced; Senate bills **S1485** through **S1493** are now included in the **FULL LIST** tracking list for review along with House bills H2703 through **H2711**.

From the **Joint Legislative Budget Committee**

Senate General Fund Budget Proposal is linked [here](#).

Senate General Fund Budget Proposal Comparison with Executive Budget is provided [here](#).

With the Session in high gear, 904 floor actions were filed with 123 of those related to bills tracked by the Council and found on the **FULL LIST** provided in this issue.

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### Other Fiscal News

JLBC: **Tracking Arizona's Recovery March 2014** is linked [here](#).

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### Legislative Deadlines

Today marked the deadline for Senate bills to be heard in House Committees and House bills to be heard in Senate committees.

Senate Session [Timeline](#)

House Session [deadlines](#)

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### Summary of Action

As of day 68, **1,204 bills posted; 7 passed; 6 signed** by the Governor; **1 vetoed, 109 memorials or resolutions posted and 16 passed**.

Some of the bills may be of interest to older Arizonans and are being tracked by the Council and appear on the *Legislative Update* web report page. Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the tracking

list **does not** represent support or opposition by the Council to the bill. It **does** mean that the bill topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans so the Council is tracking the bill's progress.

#### **FULL LIST:**

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=25263&listid=50228&print=true>

Note: The **FULL LIST** web report above provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information about the bills being tracked by the Council and is available and updated on an ongoing basis 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

This list will continue to be edited until the end of the session. Information about bill status, hearings, etc. is a purchased service provided by **Arizona Capitol Times**.

#### **Bill Actions and Hearings**

##### **H2331: life care contracts; in-home care**

3/20 from Senate Financial Committee with do pass.

##### **H2549: nursing care institution; therapeutic drugs**

3/20 from Senate Health and Human Services Committee with do pass.

##### **H2667: persons with disabilities**

3/20 from Senate Health and Human Services Committee with amendment #4776

##### **S1097: silver alert notification system**

3/19 from House Government Committee with do pass.

Hearing: House Rules 3/24 at 10:30 am, House Room 4

##### **S1135: qualified immunity; nonprofit clinics**

3/19 from House Rules okay

Hearing: Calendar 3/21 House Consent

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#### **Website Resources**

A list of the Representatives and Senators, Standing Committees and their members can be found on the Arizona State Legislature website at the following links.

[Members](#) of the House

## **Members of the Senate**

**Standing Committees** page (Click on the committees to view the members as well as any posted meeting agendas or minutes for that committee.)

If you want to learn more about the legislative process, see **Arizona Bill** or ***Bill to Law*** provided **here**.

Interested in the budget process? You can learn more at:

**<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/budgetprocess.htm>**

Need to review the Arizona Constitution? Go to:

**<http://www.azleg.gov/Constitution.asp>**

You can find scheduled capitol events **here**.

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***Share your thoughts!*** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your Legislators, you can voice your thoughts *at any time* by contacting the:

- **Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 or toll- free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only)
- Or **contacting your legislator from your area**. You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature website** and looking for: ***How do I find My Legislators*** or by following the instructions provided at both the **Senate** and **House Member** links on the website.

Not sure about your congressional or legislative district? **Maps** can be found **here**.

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

### **S.2046**

#### **Access to Hearing Healthcare Act of 2014**

Introduced on 2/26/14 by Representative Sherrod Brown (OH)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare beneficiaries coordinated care and greater choice with regard to accessing hearing health services and benefits.

Text of the bill is provided **here**.

On 2/26/14, the bill was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

### **S.1911**

#### **Supporting Knowledge and Investing in Lifelong Skills Act**

Introduced on 1/9/2014 by Representative Tim Scott (SC)

To reform and strengthen the workforce investment system of the Nation to put Americans back to work and make the United States more competitive in the 21st century, and for other purposes.

Text of the bill is provided [here](#).

01/09/2014, the bill was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

## **H.R.3902**

### **Child Protection Improvement Act of 2013**

Introduced on 1/16/2014 by Representative Adam B. Schiff (CA-28)

Child Protection Improvements Act of 2013 - Amends the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to direct the Attorney General to: (1) establish policies and procedures to streamline the process of obtaining state and national criminal history background checks on covered individuals, and

(2) establish a criminal history review program to provide covered entities with reliable and accurate information on the criminal history of a covered individual.

Defines "covered entity" as any business or organization that provides, or licenses, certifies, or coordinates individuals or organizations to provide, care, care placement, supervision, treatment, education, training, instruction, or recreation to children.

Defines "covered individual" as an individual who: (1) has, seeks to have, or may have unsupervised access to vulnerable populations (i.e., **elderly, disabled**, and children) served by a covered entity; (2) is employed by or volunteers with, or seeks to be employed by or volunteer with, a covered entity; or (3) owns or operates, or seeks to own or operate, a covered entity.

On 3/20/2014, H.R.3902 was referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.

## **H.R.4104**

### **Savings on Medical Expenses for Seniors Act of 2014**

Introduced on 2/27/2014 by Representative Gloria Negrete McLeod (CA-35)

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the 7.5 percent threshold for the medical expense deduction for people 65 or older.

On 2/27/2014, the bill was referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

## **H.R. 4211**

### **Advantage of Medicare Advantage for Minorities and Low-Income Seniors act of 2014**

Introduced on 3/12/2014 by Representative Jackie Walorski (IN-2)

To require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct studies on enrollment by racial and ethnic minorities and by low-income seniors in the Medicare Advantage program.

On 3/12/2014, the bill was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

## **H.Res.507**

**Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives in support of a women's economic bill of rights.**

Introduced on 3/6/2014 by Representative Ron Barber (AZ-2)

Text of the bill is linked [here](#).

On 3/6/2014, the resolution was referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

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If you want to check on the status of any of these bills or others, go to <http://beta.congress.gov/> and enter the bill number or title.

See **active federal legislation** at this [link](#).

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### **In case you missed it:**

**National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities** preliminary analysis of the **Administration's budget** is provided [here](#) and **NASUAD Draft FY15 Budget Chart** is linked [here](#).

**National Council on Aging analysis table** is provided [here](#).

### **Share your opinions with members of Congress!**

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**.

Links to the membership lists are provided below.

[House](#) members

[Senate](#) members

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You can contact the White House at this [link](#).

ALSO: A compilation of contact information is provided at:  
<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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## NEWS & RESOURCES

From the **National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities - NASUAD** *Friday Updates, March 21, 2014*

Information and Support for In-Home Dementia Caregivers

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Office of Rural Health has developed an educational series entitled, [Information & Support for In-Home Dementia Caregivers](#). The series is designed to aid caregivers who are helping a loved one suffering from dementia including home safety, legal matters, dealing with problem behaviors and learning relaxation techniques.

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**Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures** is linked [here](#).

### National Alzheimer's Project Act

Updated information can be found at: <http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/>.

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From the **National Institute on Aging**

**Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral Center** information is linked [here](#).

**2012-2013 Alzheimer's Disease Progress Report** is linked [here](#).

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From **National Council on Aging NCOA**

**Reverse Mortgage Counseling** [update](#)

**Dental, Vision, and Hearing Where to go for services Medicare does not cover** is linked [here](#).

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From **Administration for Community Living**

**National Nutrition Month** Blog can be viewed [here](#).

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From **Boston College Sloan Center on Aging & Work**

**Fact of the Week: *Workers Age 65+ Have the Lowest Rate of Occupational Illness or Injury*** is linked [here](#).

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#### **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**WHAT: Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) *Regional Age-Friendly Network and the MAG Transportation Ambassador Program – All Ages, One Region Conference***

**WHEN: Thursday, March 27, 2014**, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Glendale Civic Center, 5750 West Glenn Drive, Glendale, Arizona 85301

More information can be found [here](#).

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**WHAT: HopeFestPhoenix**

**WHEN: Saturday, April 5, 2014**, Chase Field, 401 E. Jefferson Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Information can be found [here](#).

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**WHAT: Experience Matters** Richard Leider on *Life Reimagined*

**WHEN: Tuesday, April 8, 2014**, Arizona Science Center, 600 E. Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85004

More information and registration is linked [here](#).

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**WHAT: 2014 AzTA/ADOT Annual Spring Conference & Bus Rodeo**

**WHEN: April 13 thru 15, 2014**, University Park Marriott, Tucson, Arizona

Information and registration provided [here](#).

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**WHAT: Arizona Geriatrics Society 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Mental Health and Aging Conference**

**WHEN: Wednesday, April 16, 2014**, Black Canyon Conference Center, 9440 N. 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85021 and **Thursday, April 24, 2014**, Handmaker Jewish Services for the Aging, 2221 N. Rosemont

Boulevard, Tucson AZ 85712

More information and registration is linked [here](#).

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Just in case you're interested

Past issues of the **Legislative Updates** are linked on the Council website at:  
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>.

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If you would like to submit an **educational** or **public service event** for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

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**Thank you! Enjoy your weekend.**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**



If you wish to be REMOVED from or know someone who would like to be ADDED to the Update, please send an email to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov) and ask to be unsubscribed or subscribed to the **Legislative Update**.